



INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENTS -THE TELANGANA SCHEDULED CASTES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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ABSTRACT

This research paper explores the programs and schemes for integrated and all-round development of students in Scheduled Castes in Telangana. The Scheduled Caste Development Department dedicated to the integrated and overall development of Scheduled Castes. According to the 2011 census, the scheduled caste's population in the state is 54.32 lakhs, which accounts for 15.43 % of the State's total population. According to the 2011 census, the literacy rate is 66.46%. The literacy level is low among Scheduled Castes with 52.52%. The drop-out ratio is high in Scheduled Castes compared to that of all communities. Many studies revealed that there is the high rate of wastage, stagnation, and inequality of the opportunity. The Indian Constitution states that India as a welfare state. With the salient features in the Preamble and the Directive Principles, The Telangana Scheduled Caste Development Department dedicated to the integrated and overall development of the SC community. The main objectives of the Department are educational advancement, socio-economic development, welfare, and protection of scheduled castes and implementation of programs. With the spirit striving towards the objectives, the government is implementing schemes and programs. They are Pre and Post metric Hostels, Ananda Nilayams, Pre and Post metric Scholarships, Telangana Study Circle, Best Available Schools, Financial Aid to SC Advocates, Scheme of Upgradation of Merit, Ambedkar Overseas Vidya Nidhi.

KEYWORDS: Telangana, Scheduled Castes, Welfare, Schemes, Integrated development.

INTRODUCTION:

Welfare is the duty of The Government and support for the citizens of that society. Welfare may provide people of any income level, as with social security, but it intends to ensure that people can meet their basic educational needs. Welfare programs designed to ensure the well being of its citizens. In other words, it is a system that aims to provide quality care to society participants.

The Telangana Scheduled Castes Development Department dedicated to the integrated and overall development of Scheduled Castes. The vision of the Telangana Scheduled Castes Development Department is to bring the Scheduled Castes socially, educationally, and economically on par with other developed communities and to achieve an egalitarian society. The mission of the department is to ensure better opportunities for the poor people belonging to Scheduled Castes to utilize educational facilities to eradicate poverty and eliminate current inequalities that prevent the Scheduled Castes from realizing their full potential and thus establishing an egalitarian society.

The caste composition of students' admission to institutions intended to achieve social integration. This composition ratio is Scheduled Castes 75%, Christians converted from SCs 2%, Backward Classes 12%, Scheduled Tribes 6%, Minorities 3%, OC/ EBC 2%. In Telangana State, 40620 boys and 18364 girls are staying in 669 pre-metric hostels, 12745 boys and 14404 girls are studying in 203 post-metric hostels. Governments have opened hostels for the development of the poor and vulnerable classes.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

The Constitution of India provides special protections for people of Scheduled Castes to develop academically and professionally. Many researchers have expressed their findings through their studies. Several provisions have incorporated in the Constitution of India for safeguarding and promoting the interests and rights of the Scheduled Castes in various spheres to enable them to join the national mainstream. Article 46 of the Indian Constitution states that the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the society and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. Reservation in educational institution provided in Article 15(4) while reservation in posts and services provided in Article 16(4), 16(4A) and 16(4B) of the Constitution. Article 23 prohibits traffic in human beings and the beggar and other similar forms of forced labor. The Parliament has enacted the Bonded Labor System Abolition Act in 1976. Article 24 prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory or mine or any other hazardous activity.

Despite the increase in student enrolment in Telangana, The dropout did not diminish. A study made by UNICEF observed that the educational system did not cover and retain the lower strata of the population. The report of UNICEF (1984) claimed that 99% of the boys and 66% of the girls enrolled in grade I are reduced to 52 and 27 at the middle school level. By the age of 14 years, 60% of the students enrolled are already out of the school.

Sharma and Madhusudhan (1982) have explained the backwardness of certain castes and argued for reservations in educational institutions and jobs. The government policy regarding reservations has described in their book "Reservation Policy in India."

Kanaikil (1983) said that Scheduled Caste people deprived of several privileges. The struggle of Scheduled Castes has explained in his book "Scheduled Castes and the Struggle against Inequality."

Sambaiah (1990) has researched "Reservations for Scheduled Castes in Public Employment." He explained the need for reservations, particularly to Scheduled Castes, and studied the implementation of reservations in public employment.

Sanjeevaiah (1991) studied "The Organization and Working of Social Welfare Hostels in Andhra Pradesh" and analyzed the organization of the welfare department in Andhra Pradesh. He explained the physical conditions in some welfare hostels.

Research questions:

The primary purpose of this study is to explore the Telangana Scheduled Castes Development Department concerning programs available for student integral and all-round development.

The study attempts to answer the following research questions:

- 1) What are the programs and schemes provided for integral student development?
- 2) What are the outcomes and achievements?
- 3) What is the feedback on student development programs?

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The primary purpose of this study is to answer the following objectives:

- 1) To explore the programs and schemes for integral student development
- 2) To find out the outcomes and achievements
- 3) To highlight the feedback of students and parents

METHODOLOGY:

The design of this study is a descriptive survey and followed the Qualitative research approach method. The data collected from primary and secondary sources. Students, Hostel Welfare Officers /Superintendents /Honorary Directors, District level and Divisional level officers, parents of students are the participants of the study. The research sample is selected randomly from the population.

Data for the study collected from three sources. They are:

- 1) Documents available in the institutions
- 2) Responses of 150 Hostel Welfare Officers/ Superintendents/ Honorary Directors, District level and Divisional level officers with the help of a questionnaire and interview schedule
- 3) Feedback and response from the 300 students and 150 parents with the help of an interview schedule

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this paper is to provide a broad overview of welfare schemes in newly formed Telangana for the integrated development of students. These Welfare schemes attempt to provide social services, such as education, skills development, and vocational training.

I. Hostels: Welfare Hostels function close to schools to provide educational facilities to the poor and needy families. Students study in local schools or colleges by staying in the hostel. The hostel is an affiliate complement to the school. At present, in 33 districts, 872 hostels are functioning under the control of Telangana S.C. Development Department. During the year 2019-20, 580 Boys Hostels and 292 Girls Hostels were functioning in the State with the strength of 86133. The District Purchase Committee is constituted with the Joint Collector for the supply of quality food provisions to hostels for providing quality food to students. Department is implementing Biometric attendance in pre and post metric hostel to students and staff through Aadhar based attendance system for better performance. The Department is monitoring student's attendance and expenditure through the HRMS portal (<https://tsswhostels.cgg.gov.in>). The Civil Supply Department is providing quality rice (Sanna Biyyam). All hostels mapped by using mobile GPS for better monitoring.

i) Pre-Metric Hostels for School Children: In Telangana State, 669 pre-metric hostels are functioning and residing about 40620 boys and 18364 girls. The hostel provides free lodging and boarding facilities. The hostel boarders get free textbooks, notebooks, study material, bedding material, trunk boxes, plates, glasses, sports shoes, and four pairs of dresses every year and sports materials, television facilities, excursion to a historical place. The government provides mess charges Rs.950/- per month for boarders III to VII class and Rs.1100/- per month for from VIII to X classes. Cosmetic charges are paid Rs.50/- for boys and Rs.55/- for girls up to VII Class and up to 11 years of age, and Rs.75/- pm per boarders for girls from Class VIII to X Class. Haircutting charges for boys paid Rs.12/- pm per boarder. The Department appoints tutors for remedial teaching for 10th class students in all hostels for 100% results in SSC examinations. A short term free POLYCET coaching is conducting for X class students in the summer holidays.

Table 1: District Wise Pre-Metric Hostels and Students Registered Report 2019-20

S. No	District Name	No. of Hostels Established			Students Registered		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Adilabad	1	2	3	163	266	429
2	Bhadradi	5	4	9	341	485	826
3	Hyderabad	14	9	23	1,909	1,096	3,005
4	Jagithyal	1	2	3	105	266	371
5	Jangaon	2	2	4	236	175	411
6	Jayashankar	1	1	2	80	77	157
7	Jogulamba-gadwal	1	1	2	260	325	585
8	Kamareddy	2	2	4	187	185	372
9	Karimnagar	3	6	9	330	1,097	1,427
10	Khammam	6	5	11	1,041	990	2,031
11	Kumarambheem	1	2	3	18	115	133
12	Mahabubabad	2	2	4	76	277	353
13	Mahabubnagar	2	4	6	748	986	1,734
14	Mancheri	4	4	8	458	537	995
15	Medak	2	2	4	192	168	360
16	Medchel	3	2	5	445	142	587
17	Mulugu	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagarkurnool	3	3	6	337	432	769
19	Nalgonda	7	8	15	877	1,391	2,268
20	Narayanpet	0	0	0	0	0	0

S. No	District Name	No. of Hostels Established			Students Registered		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
21	Nirmal	2	3	5	120	216	336
22	Nizamabad	4	6	10	657	1,070	1,727
23	Peddapalli	2	2	4	89	104	193
24	Rajanna (Sirisilla)	1	1	2	141	63	204
25	Rangareddy	7	7	14	837	813	1,650
26	Sangareddy	5	5	10	720	528	1,248
27	Siddipet	2	4	6	484	520	1,004
28	Suryapet	3	3	6	471	542	1,013
29	Vikarabad	2	1	3	155	110	265
30	Wanaparthi	2	2	4	239	296	535
31	Warangalrural	2	2	4	99	106	205
32	Warangal Urban	6	6	12	779	891	1,670
33	Yadadri	1	1	2	151	135	286
Totals		99	104	203	12,745	14,404	27,149

Special Hostels: Special Hostels have been organized for boarders of IX and X classes to improve the results of the Scheduled Castes Development Hostels. In each District, Special Hostels are organized with a strength of 100 boarders for each hostel for close monitoring and to achieve better performance. In these hostels, IX and X class boarders of all SC hostels in the district pooled at one place, and supervisory studies are organized by drafting the services of tutors to teach the boarders in Mathematics, Science, English, and Hindi subjects. Unit tests are organized in the special hostels with the help of specialized tutors once in every week to improve the academic performance of hostel boarders. The 10th class results have improved a lot in the last few years. In 2016, 7489 SSC students passed out of 7842 appeared with a 95.50 % result. In 2017, 6406 students passed out of 7049 appeared with 90.88 %.

II. Ananda Nilayams: In 1997 Government issued orders for the starting of Integrated Institutions, namely Ananda Nilayams, by merging Government Orphanages and Vimukthi Hostels to provide all amenities to these students in the Ananda Nilayams. Each Ananda Nilayam has 50 seats for orphan children and 50 seats for children of those engaged in unclean occupations. The children of Ananda Nilayams are eligible for all amenities on par with the Government Hostel Boarders. There are 30 Ananda Nilayams 18 for Boys, and 12 for Girls are functioning in the State of Telangana.

III. Telangana Study Circle: The Telangana Study Circle Hyderabad organizes coaching programs for SC, ST, and BC candidates for Civil Services Examination conducted by the UPSC every year. The coaching programs for Civil Services Prelims and Mains Exam are for ten months with a full-time residential program. From June 2014, 1026 candidates were provided coaching for UPSC Civil services exam, and 43 candidates got selected for various services. Five candidates got selected for group A and B services and 38 candidates selected for various other state services like Agricultural Officer, Jr. Assistant in Intelligence Bureau, Income Tax, Loco Pilot Railways, FCI, Singareni, Indian Navy. 10 Study circle established at the district level and 3874 candidates provided coaching for Group I, Group II, Banking services, Gurukulam, foundation course, DSC SGT. 67 students selected for various posts like police constables, PGT, School Asst, Computer Operator, and Special Officer in KGBV.

IV. Post - Metric Scholarships: Residential and Non-Residential scholarships awarded to all eligible Post-Metric students belonging to the Scheduled Castes at all levels of education. These scholarship amounts include maintenance charges of the students and all non-refundable fees payable to the institution. The government has enhanced the income ceilings for the award of Post-Metric Scholarships from Rs.1 lakh per annum to Rs.2 lakh for Professional and Non-Professional courses. The procedure of sanction of Scholarships has improvised by making it online through the e-pass portal (<https://telanganaepass.cgg.gov.in/>) with 100% Aadhar enabled admissions and one-time biometric authentication and further cross verification with the database of SSC and Intermediate boards, CET data of professional and post-graduation courses.

V. Ambedkar Overseas Vidya Nidhi Financial Assistance for Studies Abroad: This scheme started with a view to enable the benefit of higher education in foreign universities to meritorious SC students for providing an opportunity for better career prospects within country and abroad,

Government have introduced the Ambedkar Overseas Vidya Nidhi to SC Graduate students for pursuing P.G and PHD courses at Universities, Institutes located in abroad USA, UK, Australia, Canada, Singapore, Germany, New Zealand, Japan, France, and South Korea. In 2016 State Government enhanced the grant from Rs.10 to Rs.20 lakhs. The students with family income should be less than Rs.5.00 Lakhs are eligible. One child of the family shall be eligible under this scheme and 33% of the awards reserved for Women Candidates. The State Level Scrutiny Committee takes part in the student's selection.

VI. Skill Upgradation for Professional Graduates: This program started to provide financial assistance to SC students desirous of pursuing higher studies in Foreign Countries. To seek admission in reputed foreign universities into various Post Graduate Courses, students have to obtain excellent scores in tests of English proficiency such as TOEFL/IELTS and General Aptitude Tests such as GRE / GMAT or equivalent qualifying examinations. Most of the SC students, due to their extreme backwardness, poor knowledge of English, and other disabilities are often unable to perform up to the mark in the above said qualifying exams. Therefore, to equip the students with requisite skills by providing them the benefit of coaching for the above exams, it is proposed to facilitate coaching. This coaching is in TOEFL / IELTS / GRE / GMAT in the existing reputed coaching institutions to make possible admission of SC students in PG professional courses like Medicine, Engineering, Pharmacy, Nursing and for PG Courses in Pure Sciences, Humanities, Social Studies in reputed foreign Universities by obtaining higher scores.

VII. Book Banks: The objective of this scheme is to establish book banks in each Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary, Polytechnics, Degree, Post Graduation, and Law colleges where a large number of SC students admitted. The poor students cannot buy such expensive textbooks of Chartered Accountancy MBA and Biosciences, and it leads to dropouts and failures among them. Therefore the scheme aims at upliftment of the SC students and prevents failures amongst them. The scheme of Book Banks merged in the budget of Post Metric Scholarships by the Government of India. The cost ceiling per set is Rs. 7,500/- for Degree Courses in Medical/Engineering, Rs. 5,000/- for Degree Courses in Veterinary, Rs. 4,500/- for Degree Courses in Agriculture and Rs. 5,000/- for professional courses at Post Graduation level.

VIII. Pre-Metric Scholarships For Students Belonging To SCs Studying Class V To VIII: This scheme aimed to curb a high dropout rate among Scheduled Caste Children studying in primary and secondary education levels by providing a modest incentive. It provides scholarship Rs. 100/- per month for boys and Rs.150/- for girls for ten months from classes V to VIII in Government Schools

IX. Pre-Metric Scholarships For IX & X Classes: Students studying in Government Schools are eligible for payment of Pre-Metric Scholarships to help the poorest of the poor communities. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for SC students with 100% central assistance to support parents of SC children for education studying in classes IX and X to minimize the drop-out in the transition period from the elementary to the secondary stage. It provides Scholarship Rs.150/- per month for ten months, both day scholar boys and girls. An amount of Rs.750/- is provided as Adhoc grant per annum per student.

X. Hyderabad Public School: Under this scheme, SC students who are admitted to Hyderabad Public Schools at Begumpet and Ramanthapur in Hyderabad at 1st class and studying from 1st class to 12th class. During the year 2018-19, the Government permitted 53 students, 19 students in HPS Ramanthapur, and 34 in HPS Begumpet. Government helps with the financial assistance of fees charged by the institutions ranging from Rs.1,15,000/- to Rs.4,20,000/- per annum per student depending on the class of study to a day scholar or hosteller. The Income limit under the scheme is Rs.1,50,000/- per annum in rural areas and Rs.2,00,000/- in urban areas. This scheme administered online. Admission made through the lottery.

XI. Best Available Schools Scheme: The main aim of the Best Available Schools Residential Scheme is to impart quality education to the SC students of classes V to X in order to enable them to withstand the competition on par with other students in general. The scheme is for the children who belong to the families of agricultural laborers, jogs, bonded laborers, and orphans. The SCD Department selects the schools with the high standard of education and a high reputation for discipline. The government permitted 900 seats for Residential Scheme. Each student admitted under the scheme sanctioned financial assistance of Rs.30,000/- per year.

The Government introduced Pre-Metric Scholarships to Scheduled Caste Students under the New Scheme Best Available Schools Non-Residential Scheme from the academic year 2014-15. The main objective of the scheme is to provide quality education to SC students by

enabling them to join in reputed Best Available Schools from class I. Each student admitted under this scheme sanctioned financial assistance up to Rs.20,000/- per year. 1000 seats are available for admission into Non Residential schools.

XII. Scholarships to The Children of Those Engaged in Unclean Occupations: The State Government is implementing the scheme of educational facilities to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations like tanning and flaying, families having traditional links with scavenging. This scheme runs with a matching grant from the Government of India. The objective of this scheme is to cover the educational needs of those children, hostel accommodation, and other educational facilities provided with the aid of scholarships. The children under the Vimukthi program, who requires hostel facilities, are admitted to Ananda Nilayams. The students of these Vimukthi Hostels will get Scholarships for Residential Class III to X Rs.700/-per month, Day Scholars Class I to X Rs.110/- per month. Rs.750/- per annum per student is provided as an Adhoc grant for day and Rs.1000/- for hostel students for all classes.

XIII. Scheme of Upgradation of Merit: The main aim of the scheme is to upgrade the merit by providing facilities for all-round development through education in residential schools. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for upgradation of merit SC students with 100% central assistance. Coaching is imparted from class IX and continues until the student completes class XII. Rs. 25,000/- package of grant given and Rs.15,000/- for books, stationery, fees, boarding charges, pocket money to each student, and the remaining Rs. 10,000/- is for honorarium towards teachers, experts, and other incidental charges.

XIV. Financial Aid to S.C. Advocates: Under this scheme, the district will select and train 8 Scheduled Castes Advocates. The duration of the training period is three years. The selected candidates attached to the law officers within the district like Government Pleader, Public Prosecutors, and Asst. Public Prosecutors of District Courts. The selected candidates will be paid stipend Rs.1000/- per month for three years, reimbursement of enrollment fee Rs.585/- each and Rs.6000/- towards the purchase of law books and furniture.

XV. Corporate College Scheme: Corporate College Scheme aimed to provide access to quality education to meritorious poor students who have secured more than 400 marks in SSC examination in reputed colleges in the private sector at the intermediate level. This scheme enables them to compete in competitive examinations as IIT-JEE/ AIEEE/ EAMCET, to secure seats in premier medical and engineering institutions. Under the scheme, The Department identifies reputed private colleges and selects the students through District Selection Committee. In 2018-19, The Government permitted 2262 admissions to meritorious rural students from 33 districts.

XVI. Victoria Memorial Home-Residential School for Orphan Children: Victoria Memorial Home established in the year 1903 by Nizam Trust for the Welfare of orphan children. The S.C. Development Department is providing full grant-in-aid. This Residential School is at Saroonagar, Hyderabad, and consisting of primary sections with a sanctioned strength of 500 students and a High school section with a sanctioned strength of 400 students.

Below cited budget allocations witness the support for the well-being of students and society.

Table 2: Schemes Implementation and Budget allocations in SCD Department for the year 2019-20

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	BE 2019-20 Rs in Lakhs
1	Government Hostels/ Anand Nailayams (Pre matric)	9396.00
2	Scholarships Post- MTF (Professional Courses)	20000.00
3	Scholarships Post - RTF (Professional Courses)	44800.00
4	Scholarships Post - MTF (Non-Professional Courses- Inter, Degree/PG academic, Polytechnic)	500.00
5	Scholarships Post - RTF (Non-Professional Courses- Inter, Degree/PG academic, Polytechnic)	1000.00
6	Pre Metric Scholarships for Quality Education	3261.55
7	Professional Educational Support Scheme (Financial Assistance for Studies Abroad)	2000.00
8	Assistance to TS Study Circle	1420.00
9	Post metric Hostels for College Students	4810.36
10	Additional Facilities to Students of Hostels in the New State of Telangana	4000.00
11	Pre- Metric Scholarships IX & X	148.46

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	BE 2019-20 Rs in Lakhs
12	Integrated Residential Schools	437.68
13	Government Residential Centralised Schools	78546.00
14	Construction of Residential School Complex	1000.72
15	Skill Development Mission	62.87
16	Upgradation of I.T.I.s and Opening new I.T.I.s	37.55
17	Employment Exchanges	14.30

These programs bring about qualitative changes in education at the school and university levels and helpful to students in settling in real life. Many students achieved government jobs through study circles.

Students and parents have a positive attitude on educational programs in various aspects like physical facilities, maintenance, and management, academic environment, discipline, curricular and extracurricular activities, examination results. These programs have shed light on the lives of many poor people. Millions of pre metric and post metric SC students are getting benefit from scholarships and fees reimbursement.

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